

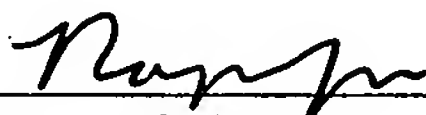
**REMARKS**

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. The subject case is a PCT application entering the US National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1) (a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

This Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 24-27. Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims in the application will be claims 1-23.

Applicants respectfully contend that the application is allowable and a favorable response from the Examiner is earnestly solicited. The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below if such would advance prosecution of the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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